

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

KROEGER WINS FOOT LOCKER HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, it is not everyday a Member of Congress gets the opportunity to proclaim they have a national champion attending school in their district. I rise today to congratulate Kathy Kroeger, a student at Independence High School in Thompson Station, Tennessee, for winning the 2006 Foot Locker High School Cross Country National Championship.

"The Beast," as she is commonly called for her consistent domination over her cross-country opponents, is a two-time defending Class AAA State champion and holds multiple State records.

Kathy recorded a time of 17:29, several seconds ahead of her closest competitor during the National Championship in San Diego. In 2005, Kathy came in a very respectable 16th place.

Winning a national championship is not an easy feat in any sport. You must be committed to constantly improving yourself, have a great support system around you, and have the determination and drive to compete. Kathy has all of the above factors, which lead her to winning the championship.

We look for many good things to come from Kathy in the future; whether on the course, in school, or out in the world, I wish her all the best.

SEMPER FIDELIS, A TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL JASON L. DUNHAM, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. JOHN R. KUHL, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, it is with honor and pleasure that I rise to recognize Corporal Jason L. Dunham, United States Marine Corps. Corporal Dunham will posthumously receive our Nation's highest award for valor on January 11, 2007 from our 43rd President, George W. Bush.

Corporal Dunham grew up in Scio, New York. He was known for his prowess in baseball, basketball, and soccer at Scio Central School. He was also well-known throughout his entire community, not just for his good-natured pranks, but for being a young man of enthusiastic yet humble spirit, someone who genuinely cared for others and who could always be counted on if someone was in need. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in July 2000, because the Marines were known to have the toughest training, but also the strongest brotherhood. He also felt a personal challenge to complete basic training and to do it well.

Following his first duty assignment with Marine Corps Security Forces in Kings Bay, Georgia, Corporal Dunham was assigned to Fourth Platoon, Kilo Company, Third Battalion, Regimental Combat Team 7, First Marine Division. Having quickly proven himself as a capable and conscientious leader, Corporal Dunham was assigned as a Squad Leader and entrusted with the training, welfare, and lives of nine American Sons. He soon earned a reputation for his unwavering commitment to his fellow Marines. He had a caring, respectful, and humane style of leadership and believed above all in leadership by example.

On 14 April 2004, while conducting a reconnaissance mission in the town of Karabilah in Al Anbar province, Corporal Dunham and his men heard rocket-propelled grenade and small arms fire erupt two kilometers to the west. Their Battalion Commander's patrol had been ambushed while enroute to visit Lima Company at Camp Husaybah, right on the Syrian border. Realizing that his unit was in a position to assist, Corporal Dunham ordered the vehicles of his Combined Anti-Armor Team to link up with his dismounted squad and advance toward the engagement to provide reinforcement. Upon reaching the site of the ambush, they were quickly barraged with enemy fire. Corporal Dunham ordered the vehicles dismounted and led one of his fireteams into the village to neutralize the ambush. After having moved several blocks south into the village, they discovered seven Iraqi vehicles in a column attempting to depart to the east. Corporal Dunham ordered his Marines to block their movement and check the vehicles for insurgents. As he approached the second vehicle in the column, an insurgent leaped out and attacked Corporal Dunham. In the ensuing hand-to-hand struggle, Corporal Dunham wrestled the Iraqi insurgent to the ground and immediately noticed that the insurgent was holding a live grenade. Corporal Dunham alerted his fellow Marines, and aware of the imminent danger but without hesitation, he removed his helmet and covered the grenade, absorbing the brunt of the explosion and shielding his fellow Marines from the blast in a selfless act of bravery that most certainly saved the lives of two of his Marines.

By his undaunted courage, intrepid fighting spirit, and unwavering devotion to duty in the face of certain death, Corporal Dunham gallantly gave his life for his country, thereby reflecting great credit upon himself and upholding the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service. Corporal Jason L. Dunham epitomizes the selfless devotion to duty that our young men and women have displayed time and time again in Iraq, Afghanistan, Africa, and numerous other places around the world. Our Nation is blessed to have a military full of Corporal Dunhams who are serving with great distinction. My heart goes out to his family, the townspeople of Scio, NY, and the Marines, for they have lost one of America's finest.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JANE FAGERSTROM

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to remember the life of a proud Chautauqua County leader. Jane Fagerstrom, born April 1, 1927, to Floyd and Bertha Alden Nelson, passed away on January 6, 2006, at the age of 79. She left behind a legacy for all Chautauqua County residents to be proud of.

A compassionate and dynamic woman, Jane Fagerstrom was a strong leader who had a real desire to help the working people of Chautauqua County. She served her community for over four decades and was a pioneer in the Chautauqua County legislature, serving as the first chairperson between 2000 and 2002.

Jane began her career in 1963 as a secretary for Joe Gerace, Sr., who was a lawyer at the time and also served as supervisor for the town of Busti. When Gerace became the first county executive in 1975, Mrs. Fagerstrom stayed with him and played an integral role in helping run the county's executive branch.

As the former director of Chautauqua's Comprehensive Employment Training Administration, and through her efforts to support the Manufacturing Technology Institute, Jane will be remembered for her efforts to help those without work.

She was also a past president of the Joint Neighborhood Project, a founding member of the Resource Center board of directors, she served on the Research and Strategic Planning Council, the planning committee of the United Way, was commissioner of the Civil Service in Jamestown, was on the advisory committee of Habitat for Humanity, the Interfaith Volunteer Program, Salvation Army Advisory Board, Board of Trustees of Jamestown Community College and the SALT organization.

Mrs. Fagerstrom was preceded in death by her husband of over 50 years, John W. Fagerstrom, whom she wed September 21, 1946, and who passed away on November 25, 1997. Surviving her are her three sons, John W. (Ann) Fagerstrom of Jamestown, Jeffrey L. Fagerstrom of Billings, Montana and David A. (Deb) Fagerstrom of Cherry Creek; two granddaughters, Nikki (Kevin) Pierce of Jamestown and Ashley Fagerstrom of Billings; two great-grandchildren, Kal and Addie Pierce; her sister, Dorothy Olson of Jamestown; and several nieces and nephews.

Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to remember and celebrate the life of Jane Fagerstrom and remember her contributions to her community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her spirit here today.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING POLICE CHIEF JACK W. LONG AS HE RETIRES FROM THE DUNCANVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Chief of Police Jack W. Long as he retires from 30 years of dedicated service to the Duncanville Police Department.

Chief Long graduated from Sunset High School in Dallas, TX, in 1971 and entered the U.S. Army the following year, serving in the military police through 1975. In 1976 he began his career with the Duncanville Police Department and was promoted to Sergeant just 3 years later in 1979. That same year he also obtained an associate's degree from El Centro Community College. In 1981 Long was promoted to Lieutenant and in 1982 he graduated from the Southwestern Law Enforcement Command Management School.

Three years later he graduated from the University of Texas at Arlington with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. In 1993 Long completed the Best Southwest Leadership training and in 1994 he graduated from the 178th Session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA, and also completed graduate work at the University of Virginia that same year.

He has completed more than 2,000 hours of law enforcement training and currently holds a Master Peace Officer Certification from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education.

Chief Long is intimately involved in the community and is a member of many organizations, including the Duncanville Chamber of Commerce, Duncanville Lions Club, and Texas Police Chiefs Association. He has also served as Chairman of the Boy Scouts of America Committee, Post 886, and as vice president of the North Texas Police Chiefs Association.

He and his wife, Deborah, have one son named Chad.

Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Chief of Police Jack W. Long's three decades of distinguished service to the Duncanville Police Department and to the city of Duncanville and its citizens. His contributions will leave an indelible mark and his leadership will be sorely missed. I am proud to serve as his representative in Washington, DC.

MOURNING THE DEATH OF SERGEANT JESSE CASTRO

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, since the birth of our great Nation, there have been true patriots—men and women—always willing and always able to answer the call to arms. Although they realized the risks, their love for home and family and loyalty to the Nation overrode their fears. In the on-going war against terrorism, my island home has lost yet

another son, SGT Jesse Castro, U.S. Army, of Chalan Pago. With a heavy but proud heart, I extend heartfelt condolences and profound sympathy to Jesse's family on behalf of the People of Guam and a grateful Nation. Jesse was a caring son, a loving husband, a devoted father, and a proud American patriot.

Jesse will be remembered by so many people, but he will especially be remembered by his fellow athletes who shared his enthusiasm for sport and adventure. Jesse was a member of Guam's Junior National Baseball team, as well as the Tamuning Eagles and Pepsi Giants football teams. His passion for the mixed martial arts was remarkable and only equaled by his skill and success in the sport, all of which will forever be remembered by his fellow fighters, but especially by those who faced him in the ring. His intensity, dedication and competitive spirit were felt by and known to those who practiced with him for athletic competition and later by the Soldiers who trained with him to protect peace and freedom in the United States Army. Jesse also enjoyed the thrill of off-roading and motorcycling on his Harley-Davidson, passions that further reflected his love of adventure and his free spirit.

But perhaps above all else, Jesse's desire to learn and to serve his people marked him. He was clearly a young and mature community leader, the kind of young man every community hopes to produce and forever embraces. Driven by his sense of duty and public service, he completed the Guam Community College's Basic Law Enforcement Academy. Determined to put his new skills to use and to act on his sense of duty, Jesse would not, however, wait for a vacancy on the police force. He quickly enlisted in the United States Army and set out to serve his country and the cause of freedom.

Ultimately, Jesse's life was a celebration of living life to its fullest. His love for his family, his devotion to his island, and his dedication to his country will forever serve as an inspiration to all who know or hear of Jesse Castro. It is said that there is no greater love than that a man lay down his life for another. Jesse gave his life so that others might some day know the joys of freedom and liberty. Jesse's beautiful wife, Therese, his young infant son, Jesse Jr. and mother, Doring, will forever know that their Jesse lived a life worth living, one marked by dignity, excellence, service, integrity, adventure and love. And while we will all forever miss him, we will all forever celebrate him. I honor him and his family. God Bless Jesse and the Castro family, God Bless Guam and God Bless America.

RULES OF THE HOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 4, 2007

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand before you today to speak in support of the rules changes proposed by our new Speaker, Ms. PELOSI, that will bring enhanced ethics, transparency, and accountability to the House of Representatives. These measures are long overdue, and I applaud our leadership team for making this the first order of business in the 110th Congress.

It has become clear to all Americans that the ethical safeguards here in our Nation's Capital are broken. Rogue lobbyists such as Jack Abramoff were allowed to run amok for years, leaving behind a vast web of corruption in their wake. Wayward Members of Congress were swayed by the offers of expensive gifts, travel, and campaign contributions that came their way. The maintenance of power became more important than responsible government, as we now see in the spiraling budget deficits, tax breaks for specific companies and industries, and legislation inserted into bills in the dark of night.

With our vote here today, we in the people's house say enough is enough. Today we begin to set our ship right and rebuild the trust of the American people.

Today we will prevent lobbyists from buying access and favor from lawmakers. While they will retain their constitutional right to petition government and share valuable information, they will no longer be allowed to buy meals, give gifts, or provide lavish trips. Corporate officials will no longer be able to buy exclusive access by offering the service of their private corporate jets. The powerful Washington elite will now be placed back on a more equal footing with other citizens who cannot afford such luxuries.

Additionally, all House employees will be required to attend annual ethics training to ensure that all members and staff know the rules and agree to follow them.

These changes, along with additional reporting requirements that will be enacted through subsequent legislation and more vigorous oversight by the Ethics Committee, will assure the American public that their elected officials are working for them and not for the special interests.

While some degree of corruption inevitably will always accompany power, these first steps are both valuable and necessary. I sincerely believe in the integrity of this great institution and its ability to live up to the highest expectations of its founding fathers. Those of us in this chamber have been given a tremendous opportunity to do good, and with that comes great responsibility.

It is my great hope that we all may move beyond the transgressions of the past with our sense of duty and our determination restored, and that the American people will once again believe in us. As a nation defined by its democracy, we must accept nothing less.

IN RECOGNITION OF LANCE CORPORAL CODY GORDON WATSON

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, LCpl Cody Gordon Watson, 21, of Oxford, Alabama, died on December 6, 2006, in Iraq. Lance Corporal Watson was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. His survivors include his mother and father Linda S. and Dennis B. Watson of Anniston, Alabama.

Lance Corporal Watson was known for his upbeat and dedicated spirit. Like all soldiers, he dutifully left behind his family and loved ones to serve our country overseas.